

*You are invited to
attend the ceremony
officially naming the
Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium
and the retiring of his jersey.
Monday, February 18, 2002
East Central Community College
Chris Gay IV Memorial Field
One o'clock in the afternoon*

* * * * *

*First home baseball game of
the 2002 season to follow.*



PHOTO BY SHERIE BRADFORD / THE MERIDIAN STAR

A LASTING TRIBUTE

Audrey Clark, widow of longtime ECCC baseball coach Jamie Clark, who died of cancer seven months ago, stands at a monument dedicated Monday in the coach's memory at the newly-named Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium.

Clark's memory lives in ECCC's 'Warriortown'

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Monday afternoon was the rare kind of perfect mid-February day when a person could really enjoy being at an afternoon baseball game ... the kind of day that would always bring a huge grin to the late East Central Community College head baseball coach Jamie Clark's face.

It was the kind of blue-sky day where Clark could have looked down and been absolutely amazed at what was going on at the ECCC baseball field where he led the Warriors for 14 years before losing his battle with cancer last July.

ECCC honored Clark by naming its baseball facility Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium before a huge gathering of fellow faculty members, current and former players, opposing coaches, students and a whole lot of friends.

He always had a smile and a lot of jokes. He's missed and we would hope that a day like today will be a fitting commemoration for his time at EC.

Dr. Phil Sutphin,
ECCC president

many people and a lot of them are here today.

"One of the things he did when he recruited a player was he recruited a student and he wanted to be sure that they grew as men and got the most out of their education that they could get.

"Coach Clark's No. 41 will never be worn again by an East Central (baseball) player or coach, but will be permanently displayed in two prominent locations," ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarbrough said.

A replica of Clark's No. 41 hangs on the fence in right field, while the gray jersey he wore when the Warriors won the 1998 MACJC state championship will be on display in the lobby of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

"We felt like we wanted to honor Jamie the best way we knew how and we felt like the replica of his jersey would be something we would see each game and remember him," said Ricky Harrison, ECCC drafting and design technology instructor.

Several other improvements to the stadium will be made in Clark's memory.

Clark

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top. One of the main things is that we're going to brick from dugout to dugout about 18 inches high. That was something that Jamie always wanted. We've already got the brick donated."

Clark's widow, Audrey Clark; daughter, Nicki; and stepson, Billy Turner; were on hand.

"Miss Audrey wanted to convey that the years Jamie spent here were not a job, but a way of life," said former ECCC instructor and personal friend of Clark, Larry Blackburn. "I believe everyone that knew Jamie would agree with that statement. It seemed if Jamie was not on this baseball field, he was at home reading about baseball or watching baseball on TV. He truly loved to talk about baseball."

"Today, I believe it is particularly fitting that Jamie be recognized for the positive influence he had on the young men that traveled through the East Central baseball program. By naming this facility Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium, all players and others will be reminded of the influence Jamie had on East Central Community College baseball."

Audrey Clark agreed that Jamie, who never liked to be in the spotlight, would be absolutely stunned at the honor and turnout.

"Very much so, but his feelings are shared by us. We don't like all this attention either, but he's looking down and he's very proud. Everything is in honor of him and very well deserving."

"Although Coach Clark is no longer with us, he will always be remembered in the place he called 'Warriorville,'" Yarborough said.

DIAMOND WARRIORS

2002 SCHEDULE

February

12	Tues	West Alabama (JV)	Livingston	(S) 2:00 P.M.
14	Thurs	Shelton State	UWA	(S) 5:00 P.M.
18	Mon	East Mississippi	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
19	Tues	West Alabama (JV)	Decatur	(S) 1:00 P.M.
22	Friday	Rush Classic - Jones	Meridian	(S) 12:00 P.M.
23	Sat	Rush Classic - EMCC	Meridian	(S) 12:00 P.M.
24	Sun	Rush Classic - MCC	Meridian	(S) 3:00 P.M.
27	Wedn	Itawamba	Decatur	3:00 P.M.

March

2	Sat	Shelton State	Decatur	(S) 1:00 P.M.
4	Mon	MS College (JV)	Clinton	3:00 P.M.
8	Fri	Gulf Coast	Perkinston	4:00 P.M.
16	Sat	Pearl River	Poplarville	1:00 P.M.
20	Wedn	Co-Lin	Decatur	2:00 P.M.
23	Sat	Southwest	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
27	Wedn	Rockingham	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
29	Fri	Hinds	Decatur	1:00 P.M.

April

2	Tues	Jones	Ellisville	4:00 P.M.
6	Sat	Gulf Coast	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
9	Tues	Pearl River	Decatur	2:00 P.M.
10	Wedn	MCC	Decatur	(S) 1:00 P.M.
13	Sat	Co-Lin	Wesson	1:00 P.M.
15	Mon	Judges Cup - EMCC	Scooba	(S) 6:30 P.M.
17	Wedn	Southwest	Summit	4:00 P.M.
19	Fri	Itawamba	Fulton	4:00 P.M.
23	Tues	Hinds	Raymond	4:00 P.M.
27	Sat	Jones	Decatur	1:00 P.M.



ALL GAMES ARE DOUBLE HEADERS
UNLESS NOTED AS SINGLE

East Central Community College

DIAMOND WARRIOR BASEBALL



The Clark Years 1988 - 2001

365 wins 302 loses 1 tie

ECCC

VS

EMCC

February 18, 2002

EMCC LIONS

2002 ROSTER

NO.	PLAYER	POSITION	CL	HOMETOWN
23	Lee Boyd	RHP	F	Columbus, Ms
28	Chad Carlson	C	S	Springdale, Ak.
14	Leif Carpenter	OF	S	Columbus, Ms
19	Ashley Chism	INF	S	Columbus, Ms
31	Ryan Clay	3B/RHP	F	Meridian, Ms
34	Bill Cotton	RHP	S	Macon, Ms
25	Nick Dimino	LHP	F	West Point, Ms
6	JD Harbour	3B/RHP	S	Collinsville, Ms
24	Ty Harbour	INF/RHP	F	Collinsville, Ms
9	Todd Harcrow	OF	S	Columbus, Ms
21	Donte Hill	LHP	F	Shuqualak, Ms
7	Kent Lewis	OF	S	Meridian, Ms
5	Andrew Lilly	SS	F	Meridian, Ms
1	Matthew Lindsey	LHP/OF	F	Silas, Al
14	Ben Mason	1B	S	Saucier, Ms
2	Prentiss McLaurin	LHP	F	Starkville, Ms
20	Matt Minchew	INF	F	Meridian, Ms
10	Joel Patrick	RHP	F	Gilbertown, Al
18	Josh Perry	C	F	Pearl, Ms
49	Dustin Ponders	RHP	F	Columbus, Ms
29	Drew Powell	INF	F	Macon, Ms
17	Clint Richards	RHP	F	Columbus, Ms
16	Josh Snider	INF	F	Collinsville, Ms
32	Chase Spencer	C	F	Meridian, Ms
33	Brent Walker	RHP	F	West Point, Ms
22	Wade Whitaker	OF	F	Geiger, Al

DIAMOND WARRIORS

2002 ROSTER

#	PLAYER	POS	CL	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL
2	Dee Hornsburger	SS-2B-OF	S	5'8"	155	Noxapater	Noxapater
3	Timothy Fieber	OF	F	6'1"	170	Philadelphia	Neshoba Central
5	Jason Massey	2B	F	5'10"	146	Lake	Lake
6	Daniel Russell	OF	F	5'9"	156	Union	Newton Academy
8	Jake Nester	SS-2B	F	5'7"	172	Lake	Lake
9	Lewis Bradford	OF	S	6'1"	175	Hillsboro	Scott Central
10	Jason Wooten	P	S	5'11"	154	Lake	Lake
11	Josh Chaney	3B-SS-OF	S	5'10"	165	Little Rock	Newton County
12	Corey Blackwell	P-2B	S	6'	164	Louisville	Nanih Waiya
14	Brian Spillers	P-OF	F	5'9"	158	Mangham, LA	Mangham
15	Corey Amis	P	S	6'1"	191	Decatur	Newton County
17	Will Baskin	C	F	5'8"	180	Noxapater	Noxapater
18	Mike Kulbeth	C	F	6'1"	170	Carencro, LA	Westminster Academy
19	Alex Shepard	P	F	6'3"	252	Sebastopol	Sebastopol
20	Jarrod Vaughn	OF-P	F	5'8"	180	Louisville	Louisville
21	Paul Brown	OF	F	5'10"	157	Forest	Forest
22	Jamie Ellington	2B	F	6'1"	175	Tiptonstown	Kosciusko
23	Justin Darby	3B-P	F	6'2"	176	Union	Union
24	William Mars	OF-P	F	6'2"	158	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
25	Chad Loper	P-OF-1B	F	6'3"	209	Chatom, AL	Chatom
27	Ty Culpepper	1B-C	F	6'	174	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
28	Michael Holifield	P	F	6'1"	195	Decatur	Newton County
32	Chris Comans	P	S	6'2"	194	Newton	Newton
33	Nick Singleton	P	F	5'11"	156	Montgomery, AL	Robert E. Lee
34	Adam McCurdy	1B	S	6'4"	209	Morton	Morton
35	Joey Holcomb	C	F	6'2"	167	Trafford, AL	Locust Fork
36	Aaron Gisler	P-3B	F	5'11"	186	Springdale, AR	Springdale
42	Rogers Tyler	3B-1B	F	6'	204	Louisville	Louisville

Managers

Brian Newell
Charleene Foreman
Jason Eaves

Hometown

Clarkdale
Little Rock
Nanih Waiya

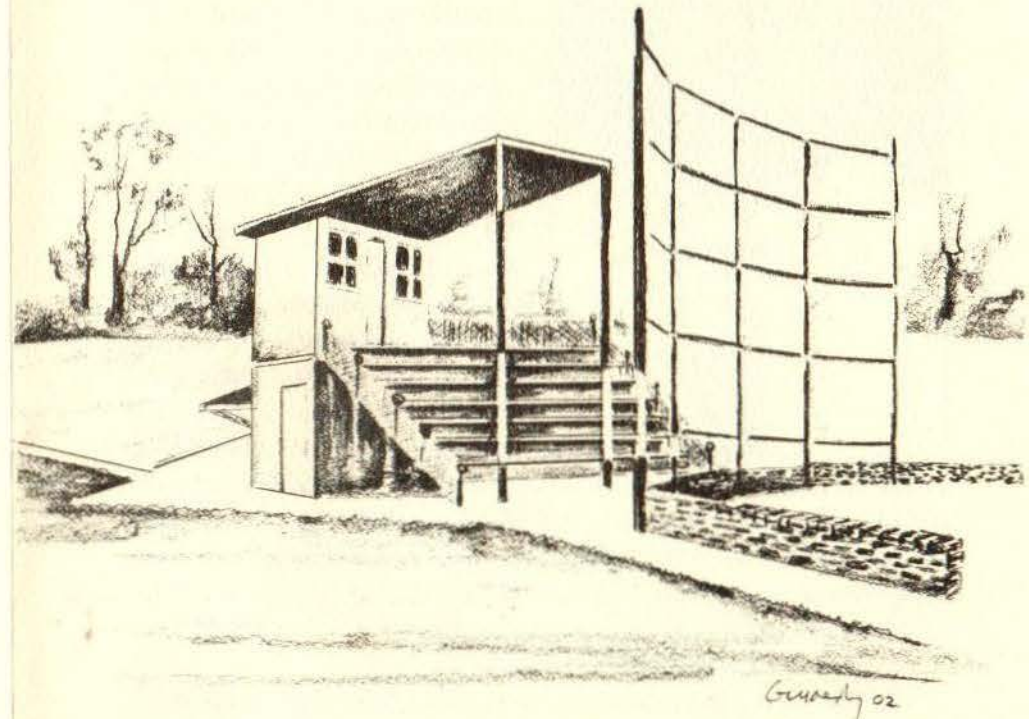
High School

Clarkdale
Newton County
Nanih Waiya

Head Coach: Jake Yarborough
Assistant: Patrick Robey

VF-41 ECCO

Ceremony
naming
Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium



ECCC
WITH YOU IN MIND

Monday, February 18, 2002
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi

Jamie Clark joined the East Central Community College coaching staff in 1987 after successfully leading baseball programs at Marvell, Arkansas; Humphreys Academy in Belzoni; Southland (Missouri) High School; and Lee Academy in



Clarksdale. His Humphreys Academy teams captured three state runners-up titles and he led Southland to a third-place finish in the Missouri state championship.

At East Central, Clark inherited a baseball program that finished 3-29 in 1987 and 2-28 the previous year. Through Clark's leadership, however, it did not take long for the Diamond Warriors to become winners.

Following a 17-25 mark in 1988, East Central went 20-19 in 1989 - the first of 11 straight seasons with at least a break-even record. In 1995, the Diamond Warriors achieved their first 30-win season (against 19 defeats) and finished MACJC state runners-up to traditional powerhouse Gulf Coast. The

1996 team posted a 31-21 mark and began a string of five straight appearances in the Region 23 Tournament. The 1997 squad earned 40 wins, a record which still stands today. Then in 1998, Clark's Diamond Warriors achieved what many thought was an impossible task - a state championship! East Central rallied from a five-run deficit to defeat Gulf Coast for the title.

Overall, Clark's record at East Central was 365-302-1.

The 2001 campaign would be the last for Coach Clark, who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor prior to the season getting underway. He still managed to attend most of the games throughout the season, although weakened by chemotherapy and radiation treatments. He was 49 when he died on July 18, 2001, at his home in Decatur.

Clark was a graduate of West Point High School and Delta State University, where he received bachelor's and master's degrees.

Among survivors are his wife, Audrey, who now resides in Austin, Texas, with their daughter, Nicki; three sons, Billy Turner of Slidell, Louisiana, Kevin Turner of Austin, Texas, and Daniel Turner of Cleveland; and three grandchildren.

PROGRAM

WELCOME Dr. Phil Sutphin
President, ECCC

INVOCATION Rev. Chris Vowell
Philadelphia, MS

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER Mr. Tommy Clopton
Chemistry Instructor, ECCC

SPEAKER Mr. Larry Blackburn
Retired Faculty, ECCC

NAMING OF THE JAMIE CLARK MEMORIAL STADIUM Dr. Phil Sutphin

UNVEILING OF MONUMENT Mrs. Audrey Clark &
Miss Nicki Clark

PROCEED TO STADIUM SEATING

NATIONAL ANTHEM ECCC Ac'cents

RETIRING OF JERSEY Mr. Jake Yarborough
Head Baseball Coach, ECCC

THROWING OF FIRST PITCH Mrs. Audrey Clark

PRESENTATION OF BASEBALL SIGNED BY ECCC BASEBALL TEAM